REMARKS

Applicants reply to the Non-Final Office Action mailed on August 13, 2010 within three months. Claims 1, 4-10, 13, and 15-19 are pending in the application along with new claims 20-25. Claim 3 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. The Examiner rejects claims 1, 3-10, 13, and 15-19. Support for the amendments and new claims may be found in the originally-filed specification, claims, and figures. No new matter is entered with these amendments or new claims. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application.

The Examiner rejects claims 1, 3-10, 13, and 15-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Lai et al, US Patent No. 5,706,429 ("*Lai*") in view of *Helland* et al, US Patent No. 5,890,161 ("*Helland*"), Suorsa US Patent No. 7,124,289 ("*Suorsa*"), Yu US Patent No. 5,433,483 ("*Yu*"), Roche US Patent No. 4,879,557 ("*Roche*"), Vaghi US Patent No. 6,047,273 ("*Vaghi*"), and Taylor et al US Patent No. 6,256,676 ("*Taylor*"). Applicants respectfully disagree with these rejections, but Applicants amend certain claims in order to clarify the patentable aspects of the claims and to expedite prosecution.

Applicants amend certain claims in order to include further architecture of the system elements which are absent from the references. Specifically, the claims now essentially recite a system with a client (client system) and two servers (host system and solution stack system). Furthermore, each system is separated by a different network (first network and second network). The client makes a transaction request to the host. The host executes a host program that retrieves data from a local or remote database and accesses the appropriate software on the third system, the solution stack system. The appropriate software programs on the solution stack then processes the data and the request. The host program then returns the results to the host and sends the results to the client.

The Examiner submits that "Lai teaches receiving at a host computer system a request to process a transaction from multiple terminals or entities and processing the transactions and presenting the results back to the terminals or entities." Applicants do not disagree with the Examiner in as much as the multiple user terminals the Examiner refers to are user terminals 114 and the host computer system the Examiner refers to is the host computer 112, as described in Lai. Furthermore, as user terminals 114 initiate communication with host computer 112 (see Lai col. 5 lines 25-36), user terminals 114 act as a client and host computer 112 functions as the

server by responding to those communications. With regard to a description of the network between the client and server used in computer system 110, Lai is silent except for description in the background with regards to client server machines in general. Specifically Lai teaches that "each user may be connected to other users as part of a network, which in turn is connected to the host computer."

The Examiner goes on to address Helland, indicating that "Helland teaches a distributive computing environment, where more than software modules are stored remotely in a different system and are accessed by the host in response to a transaction processing via a second network" In making this statement, the Examiner refers to Helland col. 4 ln. 63-67 through col. 5 ln. 1-3 which states in part that "tasks are performed by remote processing devices that are linked through a communication network. But, some embodiments of the invention can be practiced on stand-alone computers." This section alludes to a local device and a remote device functioning over a network. The local device and the remote device describe a client server relationship. Indeed, Helland validates this characterization by stating "The server computer 20 may operate in a networked environment using logical connections to one or more remote computers such as a remote client computer 49." (col. 5 ln. 66-67 col. 6 ln. 1) The same characterization is again affirmed by Helland's teaching that

> In a typical installation shown in FIG. 2, the execution environment 80 is on **the server computer** 84 (which may be an example of the computer 20 described above) that is connected in a distributed computer network comprising **a large number of client computers** 92 which access the server application components in the execution environment.

As such, it is clear from their teachings that both Lai and Helland disclose very similar, if not identical, client-server systems. Both teach a plurality of clients communicating with a single server configured to execute various applications. Furthermore, there are no notable differences between the network connections taught in each reference. On the contrary, it is seemingly the same type of client-server relationship over a similar network. As such, the Examiner's combination of two similar client-server systems merely teaches a redundancy of systems and not the architecture recited in the claims.

As discussed previously, the claims recite a first computer system (e.g. a computer based client ... wherein the computer based client is different than the computer based host system;)

contacting a second computer system (e.g. a computer based host system) which utilizes a third computer system (e.g. solution stack computer system wherein the solution stack computer system is a different system from the computer based host system). Furthermore, as Helland and Lai teach similar networks, **the Examiners reference to two similar networks does not teach, and is silent to, a first network between the client and host system and a second network between the host and solution stack system.**

Therefore, neither Helland, Lai, nor any combination, teaches each and every element recited in claims 1, 7, and 8. Furthermore, *Suorsa, Yu, Roche, Vaghi,* and *Taylor* fail to cure the shortcomings of Helland and Lai. As such, Applicants request that the rejection against independent claims 1, 7, and 8 be withdrawn.

Dependent claims 4-6, 9-10, 13, and 15-25 variously depend from independent claims 1, 7 and 8, so dependent claims 4-6, 9-10, 13, and 15-125 are allowable over the cited references for the reasons set forth above, in addition to their own unique features, some of which are stated above.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims properly set forth that Applicants regard as their invention and are allowable over the cited references. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the Examiner's convenience, if that would help further prosecution of the subject application. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees due to Deposit Account No. 19-2814.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 11, 2010
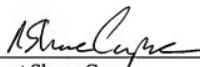
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